

*North Shore  
Country Day School  
Catalog*

# **The North Shore Country Day School**



**Winnetka, Illinois**

LAKE FOREST

WINNETKA

WILLOW ROAD

THE  
NORTH SHORE  
COUNTRY DAY  
SCHOOL

GREENBAY ROAD

RAILROAD

LAKE  
MICHIGAN

CHICAGO



The North Shore Country Day School is an independent school with grades ranging from junior kindergarten through high school. Located in the southern part of the village of Winnetka, about 20 miles from downtown Chicago, the School serves students from the city and from all of its northern and northwestern suburbs.

In addition to public transportation, which is easily accessible, the School provides a bus service for the area.

A beautiful 16-acre campus provides the background which includes a wooded hillside offering an attractive setting for outdoor activities throughout the year. The greater part of the campus is taken up with football, baseball and hockey fields and a skating rink.

The School is housed in eight buildings which include numerous shops, studios and laboratories, as well as the regular classrooms. The High School, the Middle School and the Lower School each occupies a separate building, as does the Boarding Department for high school boys. There are also two gymnasiums, an administration building and an auditorium which is well equipped for dramatic productions and where daily assemblies are held.

## ORGANIZATION

The School is organized under the laws of the State of Illinois as a Corporation not for Profit, with the parents constituting the corporation. These parents elect from their number a Board of Directors, who are responsible for the business of the enterprise. All parents belong to the Parents Association, which is extremely active in the day-to-day affairs of the School. Here the parents and the School share the responsibility for the development of the children. Parent committees assist in the office, operate the switchboard, serve the lunches, work in the library,

care for the costume collection and arrange art exhibits.

The educational policies of The North Shore Country Day School are under the direction of Nathaniel Stowers French, Headmaster. In its 35 years, The North Shore Country Day School's faculty has developed an educational program that serves as a model for other schools in the United States and abroad.

To meet the social and educational needs of children as they mature, The North Shore Country Day School is organized under three separate departments. The Lower School consists of the first five grades plus a junior and a senior kindergarten; the Middle School of the sixth, seventh and eighth grades; the Upper School of the four regular high school years.

While each school has its own faculty, buildings and administrative officers, the family spirit and homogeneity of the whole community are enhanced by all-school programs of the music, art, athletic, dramatic and shop departments, whose personnel operate at all grade levels. A faculty ratio of one instructor to every ten students is maintained so that classes are small and interest can be given to the individual student.

The daily meeting of the whole school is basic to the ideal of the family spirit. Here in the "Morning Exercises," as this assembly is called, the children, teachers and visitors share experiences and discuss problems of school welfare or hear lectures and concerts. The entire student body celebrates together the principal national and religious festivals and fete days, such as Thanksgiving, Christmas, Memorial Day and May Day. Once or twice a year, also, the whole school works together, the smaller children under the guidance of the older students and adults in a clean-up or Work Day to preserve



and improve the appearance of the grounds and buildings. All these common interests and efforts bind together the entire school membership, including the parents, and give them a sense of belonging to the school as a whole.

## THE LOWER SCHOOL

**Junior Kindergarten Through Fifth Grade**



The Lower School has a carefully developed program of training in reading, writing, spelling, speech and arithmetic. In its initial stages the program consists of helping the child to develop not only the motor coordination necessary before he can begin to learn complicated techniques, but also good attitudes toward the skills to be learned. Only when readiness is complete does instruction begin. The instruction then continues both formally and informally throughout the School.

Daily periods are devoted to reading, writing and arithmetic from the first grade up, and the skills are developed and utilized in the wide variety of real situations which the daily school life affords. The School's program is adapted to meet the particular needs of each individual child, so that not only is specialized instruction provided for those individuals who need extra help in mastering the techniques, but wide and challenging opportunities are available to those

whose interests and abilities are advanced in the various fields.

Under the direction of an experienced and well-trained faculty working closely with each other, a program of work, rest and play is carefully developed to meet the needs of each individual and group. The life of each grade includes a series of projects which not only awaken a broad range of intellectual and social interests, but emphasize the development of initiative and responsibility. In well-equipped studios and shops, skilled teachers of crafts, drama and art extend the scope of individual and grade activity. The children get a sense of belonging to and participating in a larger social and cultural community from excursions to places which have meaning in connection with their work, frequent assemblies in which they exchange ideas with members of other grades, and many friendly contacts in work and play with the older boys and girls.

## **THE MIDDLE SCHOOL**

**Sixth, Seventh and Eighth Grades**



The Middle School offers a wide variety of experiences which emphasize both academic preparation and aesthetic, social and physical development. The average size of classes in aca-



demical subjects is well under twenty students, and the work in each subject is planned to provide for maximum individual growth. The program is designed to integrate subjects so that the student can see relationships which enhance the value of each subject. In the only areas in which reliable test data are currently available (reading and arithmetic) Middle School students score well above expectation of their age and grade.

The Middle School curriculum offers many opportunities in art, shop, music and dramatic activities. Introductory work in Latin, French, German and grammar for foreign language is given to eighth graders by members of the Upper School faculty. There are daily periods of physical education, and every student in the Middle School who is physically able to do so plays on an athletic team in games with other schools. Both boys and girls learn a great deal from this participation, not only athletic techniques but also social attitudes and skills.

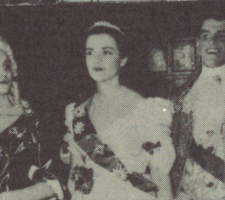
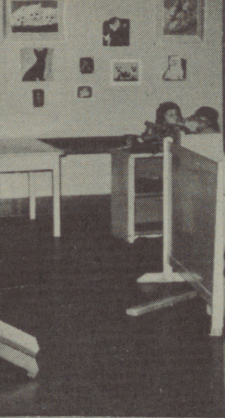
Classes of less than twenty within a Middle School unit of less than a hundred students contribute to an atmosphere which fosters the development of many close friendships among students and of close association between student and teacher. In this atmosphere, the student feels he knows the teacher well as a person; the teacher becomes familiar with each child's individual pattern of interests, capabilities and needs.

Acting together with the other faculties at The North Shore Country Day School, the faculty members of the Middle School try to make the students' transition from Lower to Middle School and from Middle to Upper School as smooth as possible. In addition, the Middle School students have repeated opportunities to cooperate in activities with students in both the Lower and Upper schools.





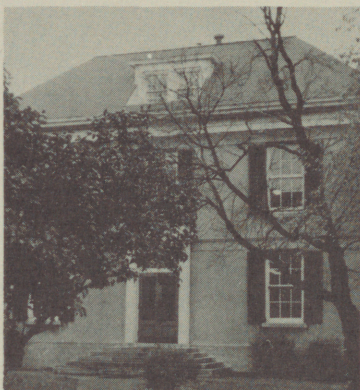






# THE UPPER SCHOOL

Freshman, Sophomore, Junior and Senior  
Years of High School



## The Course of Study

The academic curriculum of the Upper School of The North Shore Country Day School meets the most exacting entrance requirements for both the leading liberal arts and technical colleges in the country.

Four years of sequential study are offered in English, Latin, French, German, Mathematics (Algebra, two years; Plane Geometry, Trigonometry, Solid Geometry), Science (General, Biology, Physics, Chemistry) and History, (Ancient, Medieval, Modern, United States).

Two years of sequential study are offered to juniors and seniors in Spanish, Art Major and Music Major. Full course work for practical credit is available in Studio Art or Mechanical Drawing in each high school year, and in Home Economics in the last two years.

The choice of courses for any given student is determined by his or her individual needs, interests, abilities and educational goals. The minimum requirements for graduation include the successful completion of sixteen full courses, two of which may possibly be non-academic, as well as satisfactory fulfillment of required work in each of the following: Athletics, Art, Drama,



Hygiene, Industrial Arts, Music, Mechanical Drawing (boys), Safety-driver Training and Stagecraft.

To meet the particular needs of the individual students certain courses may be taken in grades in which they are not regularly given. Courses other than those listed may be offered from time to time.

## **The College Record**

The record of success of North Shore Country Day School graduates in gaining admission to the colleges and universities of their choice places it among the leading preparatory schools in the country. And yet the School does more than just prepare the student for academic college life. College officials both praise the School's academic standards and stress the well-rounded personalities of its alumni. Alumni are, for instance, now attending Yale, Princeton, Harvard, M. I. T., Colorado, Colgate, Michigan, Northwestern, Stanford, Smith, Vassar, Bryn Mawr, Bradford and many other colleges of equal standing.

## **Modified Coeducation**

At The North Shore Country Day School coeducation means a definite organization of the curriculum and social life of the schools to meet the needs of boys and girls as they mature.

During the high school years, each sex needs the association of the other, but also wants to be certain in the knowledge that it can retreat into the security of association with its own kind for considerable periods. As a result, each group develops the spirit towards work and play that is characteristic of a strong boys' or girls' school and at the same time avoids developing artificial attitudes toward social life and the opposite sex.

In Dunlap Hall, the Upper School building, the boys' home rooms are on a floor separate from the girls'. Each group meets once a week

under the guidance of the home room advisor to discuss problems of any nature which may be of interest to the students. In addition, the Headmaster meets each home room group weekly in a course designed to develop personal and social standards.

In half the freshman and sophomore subjects the boys and girls are in separate sections. They are brought back together increasingly in the junior year until as seniors they work together in all phases of their program except in athletics and in home rooms. Throughout the Upper School boys and girls work together on such activities as the Student Government, the school paper, the yearbook, the many dramatic productions and the festival celebrations of the whole school.

## ATHLETICS

In line with the School's belief in the development of cooperative and responsible attitudes, the strong athletic program of The North Shore Country Day School is largely based on team play. The lower grades have regularly scheduled daily activities, under the school physical education instructors, designed not only to develop individual abilities and interests but to teach the essentials of team play. By sixth grade the students have had some team games in preparation for the regular participation on a School team required of every physically fit student from the sixth through the twelfth grade. This team membership by all students gives valuable training in sports and makes demands on every individual for his or her best effort. It is not only the games of the School team in the Chicago Private School League that command interest and respect; students are interested in the scheduled interschool games of all the teams down to the sixth grade. Team membership heightens the interest and increases the pleasure derived from physical exercise.



In the upper grades as many different games are offered as is consistent with full participation by groups of the class size. Emphasis for the boys from the sixth grade up is on football, basketball and baseball, but touch football, soccer, tumbling and softball are offered. The emphasis for the girls is on field hockey, basketball and softball, but the dance and archery are offered. In the Spring arrangements are made to offer golf, tennis and riding to both boys and girls.

The 16-acre campus and two gymnasiums are ample for daily athletic activities at all times of the year. The Lower School children have playgrounds, large fields and a wooded hillside for their daily outside activities. The Middle School is scheduled for two sessions of supervised athletics each day, one a short pre-lunch period and the other, an hour in the afternoon before the late study period. Every High School student has at least an hour athletic period starting at 3:30 after the academic program for the day. Team practice may continue to 5:30.

## HEALTH

The School Physician together with the Director of the Physical Education Department supervises the health program of the School. The doctor personally examines all children below the sixth grade every morning. This has been an established feature of the School since its founding. Also all children returning to School after an illness are required to see the School Physician before returning to classes.

A complete physical examination is required annually. When the need for special handling in athletics or in all activities is indicated, parents are informed and a corrective program initiated.

## ADMISSIONS

Admission to The North Shore Country Day School is based both on a student's previous record, on standardized test results and personal interviews. In grade placement academic attainment and emotional maturity are considered. Whenever possible, particularly in the lower

grades, it is recommended that the applicants spend a day visiting the School in session.

## SCHOLARSHIPS

There has been maintained at the School since its founding a scholarship program designed to help foster and strengthen the democratic spirit of the School by enabling the student body to include worthy students who would otherwise be financially unable to benefit by the program at The North Shore Country Day School. Requests for information concerning scholarships should be addressed to the Headmaster. Identities of scholarship recipients are known only to the Headmaster and the Scholarship Committee of the Board of Directors.

## THE BOARDING DEPARTMENT



A valuable adjunct to the School is the Boarding Department in Leicester Hall. Here, the limited number of boys of high school age who live at the School in the friendly, family-like residence on the campus, enjoy the full benefits of fully accredited schooling plus the nearest approach to their own home life that could be found. "The House," under the supervision of a faculty couple and one of the men on the faculty, is planned as a home with all the advantages that companionship of five to ten carefully chosen boys could give it.



**THE NORTH SHORE COUNTRY DAY SCHOOL**

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